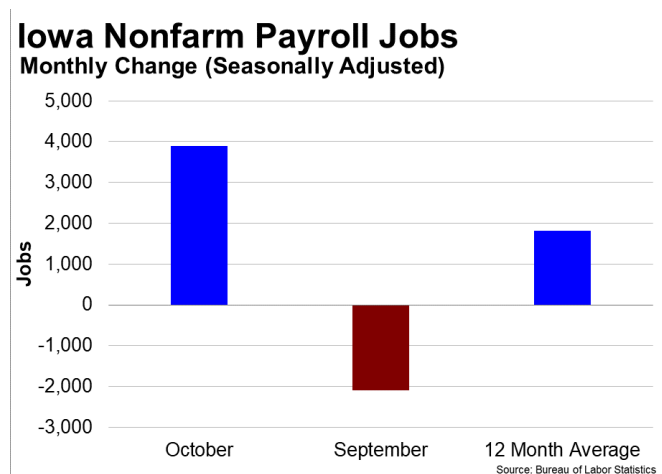
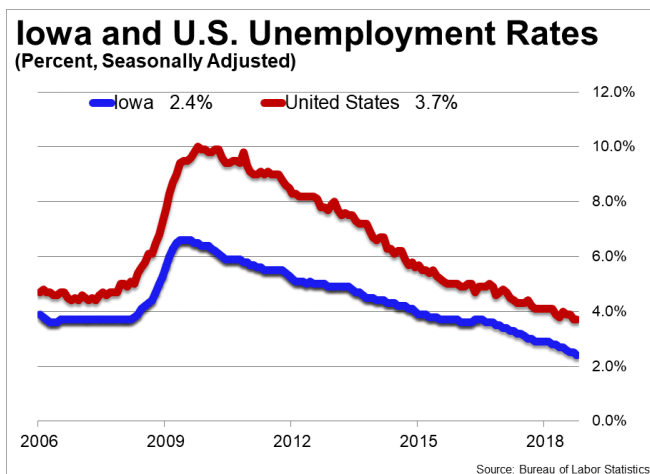




November 16, 2018

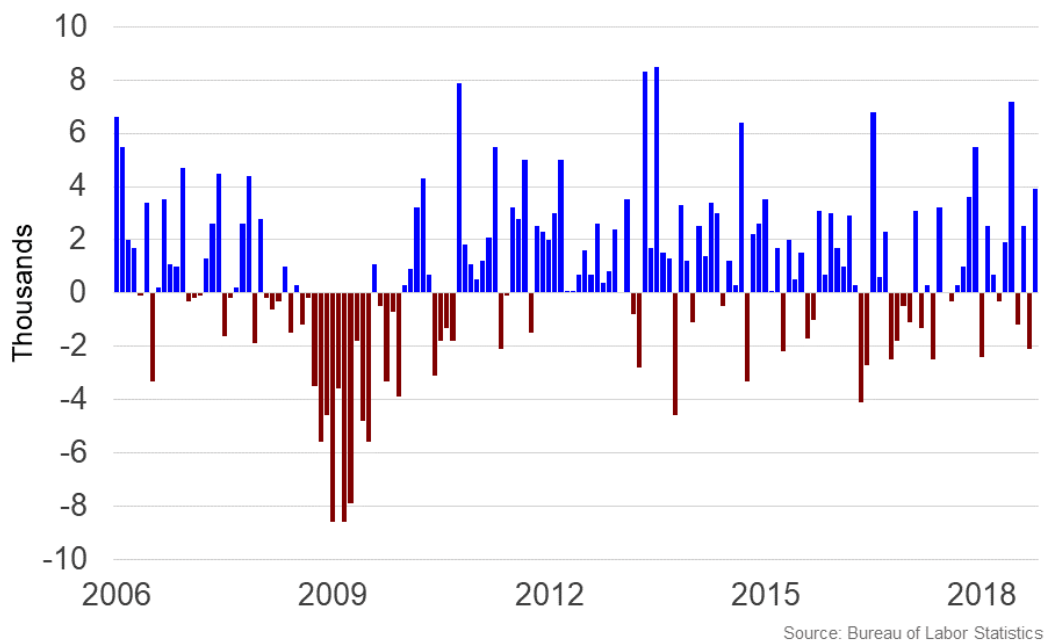
## Summary

- **Iowa added 3,900 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 2.4 percent in October** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Iowa added 21,800 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 2.9 percent.
- **In October, Iowa's private sector added 4,900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 22,700 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Iowans fell by 594 in October**, and over the past year 21,298 Iowans found jobs.
- Iowa's **labor force participation rate increased to 68.3 percent** from 68.2 percent in October. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.2 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October**. State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 7, 2018.



# Iowa Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



## Iowa Payroll Employment

Iowa added 3,900 jobs, or 0.25 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, Iowa lost 2,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Iowa increased by 21,800, or 1.39 percent. Iowa nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

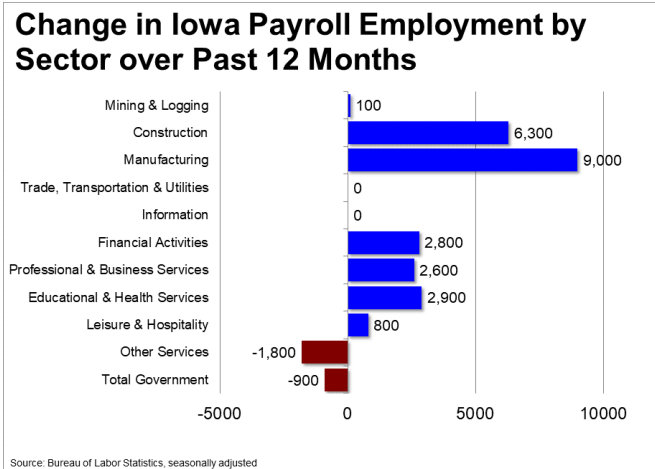
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000 jobs in October, or 0.17 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,516,000 jobs, or 1.71 percent. Iowa ranks 15th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Iowa's private-sector added 4,900 jobs, or 0.37 percent. The private-sector in Iowa added 1,500 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Iowa increased by 22,700, or 1.73 percent. Iowa private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 246,000 jobs in October, or 0.19 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,450,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.96 percent. Iowa ranks 16th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Leisure & Hospitality (+2,100) and Construction (+1,600). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Total Government (-1,000) and Educational & Health Services (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Manufacturing (+9,000) and Construction (+6,300). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Other Services (-1,800) and Total Government (-900).



## Iowa Labor Force Statistics

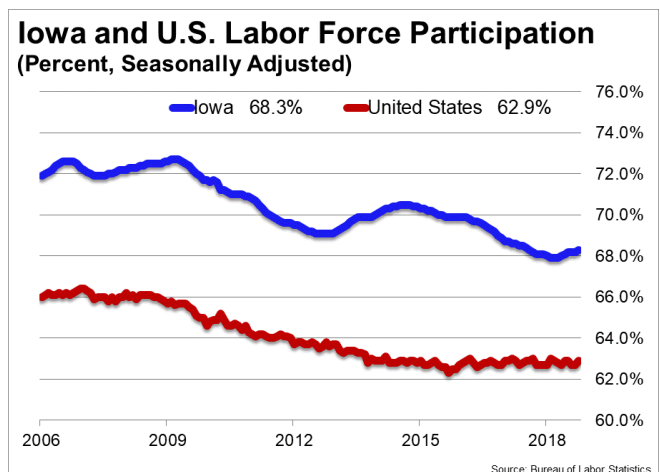
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Iowa rose to 68.3 percent in October from 68.2 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 9 have a higher labor force participation rate than Iowa. The labor force participation rate in Iowa is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Iowa was 72.7 percent in April 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Iowa occurred in July 1996 when the labor force participation rate hit 73.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 67.9 percent in April 2018. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 63.9 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 62.9 percent in October, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

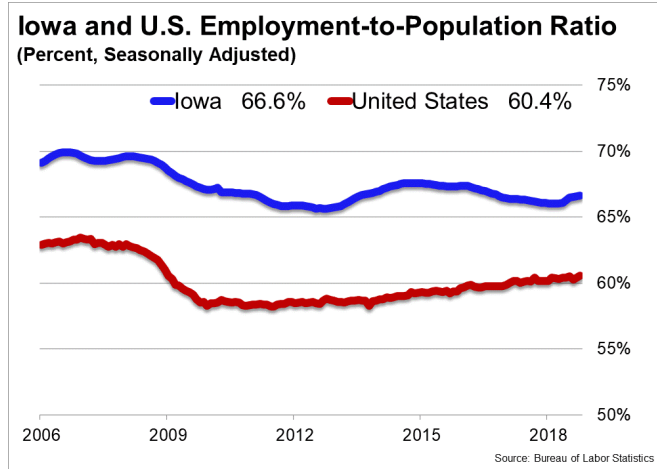
### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Iowa civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 66.6 percent in October from 66.5 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 5 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Iowa. The employment-



to-population ratio in Iowa is 0.5 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Iowa was 68.9 percent in November 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Iowa occurred in August 1996 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 71.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 65.6 percent in October 2012. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 59.9 percent.



The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.2 percentage point to 60.6 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.